



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

JACK W. OGILVIE, Historian
P. O. Box 2221
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028

Feb. 16, 1965

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1112 Berkshire Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I am preparing a list of V.I.P.s for the Historical files of the A.N.A. and would like to add your name to the list.

Would you please fill in the spots marked in red, and return as soon as possible. It is not essential that we have a glossy photo for a halftone, but if available, would appreciate same.

I am sure that I do not have a complete list of your numismatic activities in my files, so would you kindly list any that I have missed. Would appreciate a return of this as soon as possible.

Yours very truly

Jack W. Ogilvie

LUIS F. ARDOIS
919 FIRST FEDERAL BLDG.
SANTURCE PUERTO RICO 00909

May 26th, 1965

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1112 Berkshire Ave.
PITTSBURG, 24, PENNA

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

I want to thank you very much for
yours of the 8th inst and your opinion on the
D.W.I. coin.

This particular coin was brought to me by
a friend from Spain, therefore I do not think it
can be included in the bunch you mentioned sent
from this Island. Anyhow I take your word and
forget about.

I am happy to know that you still have some
coins among which perhaps there are any of the ones
I am missing as per the enclosed list. If so, will
appreciate you to send me the details and price.

Cordially



Luis F. Ardois

June 1, 1965

Friend Ardeis:

Thank you for your letter of May 26th.

Sorry I cannot help you on your want

list at this time. Let me explain. I retired in 1951. Since then each year I have sold one or two sections of my collection of conventional coins. However, I kept all siege, necessity revolutionary and counter-stamped coins. Of these, all are now sold except the most important Americas.

Let this year or early in 1966 I will place on the market through public auction (probably Hans Schulman) all such coins of Mexico-Central-South America. Also cut and/or cspd coins West Indies, Philippines, Haiti, Puerto Rico etc. Thus you will see you will have a chance to bid on many of the coins you want. This will be the most complete collection ever offered on the open market.

Best regards,

Howard . Gibbs

Prudential Bank and Trust Company

DEPOSITORY OF THE PHILIPPINE AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

CABLE ADDRESS
PRUBANK

DR. PABLO I. DE JESUS
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT & TREASURER

Aug. 4, 1965

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1112 Berkshire Ave.
Pittsburgh 26, Penna.

Dear Howard:

I am very grateful to you for your letter of June 1st and the excellent rubbings of your countermarked coins. I was agreeably surprised to see so many countermarks acquired by you since my last publication in 1950. Many of them are extremely interesting and rare or unique, such as:

Manila 1830's
Manila 1828 cmkd Y.II. on hole.
Double cmks. F.7° and Y.II. on one side of the coin.
Cmk on Moneda Provisional de Zacatecas.
Cmk on Brazil crowns.
Cmk on minor coins.
And many others.

I am tempted to ask for photographs of some of them for the book.

I am pleased to see that you have the Chile doubloon 1826 which must be the one I consigned to a Bebee auction sale several years ago. I have the 1825 which I acquired at the same time from the same source.

Of the Byrne collection I am not sure whether I should include the two cob pieces, coins which were not current during that period. I would appreciate your comment on this.

Locally, I saw an 8R of Cuzco, South Peru 1837 cmkd. Y.II. which I do not want to include in my list for the main reason that these cmks were suppressed by the decree of March 31, 1837. I believe that even if the coin was struck early in January, it could not reach Manila before the closing of the mint, as the ships of that era took over three months to cross the Pacific not to mention the delays in loading and unloading at ports of Acapulco and Manila. For the same reason, I shall cross out all cmks after 1837 in my old list.

Again thanks and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

P. S. You can keep my duplicate list. I also receive a few listing from Mr. Calico of Barcelona.

Pablo
PABLO I. DE JESUS

AIR MAIL

Prudential Bank and Trust Company

DEPOSITORY OF THE PHILIPPINE AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

CABLE ADDRESS
PRUBANK

DR. PABLO I. DE JESUS
VICE PRESIDENT & TREASURER

February 28, 1964

Mr. H. D. Gibbs
1112 Berkshire Ave.
Pittsburgh 26, Pa.

Dear Howard:

Further to my letter of Feb. 13th I am glad to inform you that my friend Byron Huie, an American businessman and numismatist of long residence in the Philippines, has graciously consented to meet you when you visit Manila next April. In fact he wants to invite you to visit his beautiful home facing the bay and see his coin collection. I have given him your letter to me of June 29th as a reminder. His full name and address is as follows:

Byron S. Huie
21- 2nd St. Villamar Court
Parañaque, Rizal
Tel. No. 8-19-51

The above residence is in the Manila suburb a couple of miles distant but can be easily reached by taxi from your hotel although he'll probably pick you up in his car. His name is listed in the Manila Telephone Directory.

For your information Mr. Huie has a good collection of Mexican and Philippine series of which he possesses a number of rarities, like the Eo Mo mint, CE, GC, etc. He is a very nice chap and I am sure you will enjoy each others' company. Make it a point to see him.

Again I am sorry that I shall miss meeting with you, when you come to Manila.

Before closing I wish to inform you that after over 20 years of extensive coin hunt around the world I finally came across a VF duplicate of Eo Mo 1829 Mexican Rep. cmkd. Y.II. for which I would like to get \$500.00. It is in better condition than the specimen in my collection (No. 127 as illustrated in Philippine Monograph 6). I have received offers here in Manila but still holding it at my price.

I will soon prepare another list of Philippine cmks and will send you a copy when ready.

Sincerely,

Paul

/pvdn

Dr. Pablo I. De Jesus has just informed me that he will also meet you.

AMERICAN EXPRESS

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FOREIGN REMITTANCE
AND EXCHANGE DIVISION

Sept. 2, 1965

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1112 Berkshire Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15226

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

We are in receipt of your letter of August 30, 1965 concerning the Churchill Crown.

We are advised by the U.K. Treasury that shipment of these coins is presently scheduled for late October. We estimate distribution in New York either in the later part of October or the early part of November.

We cannot quote you exact cost figures since postage, insurance, and handling costs for shipment from London to the United States, and subsequent handling here cannot be determined at this time. For information only we would estimate the selling price to be approximately \$1.00 per coin.

Should you wish us to ship you this coin, please advise us so that we may notify you of exact cost and date of shipment, when this information is available to us.

Very truly yours,



Fred Meer
Manager

August 15, 1965

Manager,
American Express Co.,
Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Coins magazines have just publized that an English dollar size coin will soon be released bearing the portrait of Sir. Winston Churchill on the reverse and will be distributed in the United States through a number of banks AND THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

If this information is correct will you please reserve TEN SPECIMENS for me to be included in the educational collection of the Pittsburgh Numismatic Museum.

Will you pleas acknowledge?

Yours truly,

Howard D. Gibbs

PS: Mrs Gibbs and I have booked a njmber of tours through the Pittsburgh office including one around the world in April-July 1964.

that the Churchill crown, a coin worth 70 cents

of the ancient Roman occupation of Britain. Government sources state that a "large quantity" is to be minted.

U. S. Banks To Distribute New 1965 Churchill Coins

A Royal proclamation August 3 laid down the design for England's new 1965 Churchill crown, issues of which are expected to begin during October, according to a London dispatch. Also, according to reports, the coins will be available at face value through U. S. banks.

Chancellor of the Exchequer James Callaghan said in a House of Commons written reply that the crown (five shilling) pieces will be available to the public at branches of banks to which they will be issued as

normal coin of the realm.

The face value of the five shilling coin is 70 cents U. S. The metallic content of the piece, copper and nickel at the ratio of 75 and 25, is worth only about 3½ cents U. S.

The Royal Mint, London, England, is making arrangements to meet orders from overseas banks, but will be unable to deal directly with other organizations (than banks) and will not deal directly with the public, Callaghan said.

The Royal Mint has made ar-

rangements to meet orders from the United States through the banking system. The following United States banks will accept orders and obtain the crowns from the Royal Mint through their London offices, according to the British Information Services, New York City office.

Purchasers may place orders with these banks direct or through any other U. S. bank, the BIS noted: The American Express Co.; Bankers Trust Co.

(Continued on Page 28)

Roth Houses Name Four Members

Churchill. . .

FROM PAGE 1

in New York; Chase Manhattan Bank; Chemical Bank New York Trust Co.; Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Co. of Chicago; First National City Bank of New York;

First National Bank of Chicago; First National Bank of Boston; Irving Trust Co.; Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.; Marine Midland Trust Co.; Morgan Guaranty Trust Co.; Bank of American National Trust and Savings Association.

The obverse of the crown bears the effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with royal style and titles and the date, 1965. The queen's effigy is the same, designed by Mrs. Mary Gillick, in use on British coins of 1953 to 1965 and known as the "young head" to distinguish it from the "mature head" now used by Canada, Rhodesia, Australia, etc.

The reverse was designed by Oscar Nemon and bears a portrait of the late Sir Winston Churchill facing right, minus cigar, and the single large word to the right, CHURCHILL. Size

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AMERICAN EXPRESS

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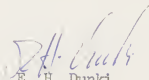
September 15, 1965

Mr. Howard D. Gibbs
1112 Berkshire Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15226

Dear Mr. Gibbs:

We have today been informed by our Executive Office in New York that the American Express Co. has ordered a sizeable supply of the special issue of a "Churchill Commemorative Crown" which will be available as of October, 1965. We do not have final cost figures as yet, but believe the cost will be approximately \$1.00 per Crown. Inasmuch as these coins are not available locally, will you kindly contact Mr. Vincent DeMaio, Manager Foreign Remittance and Exchange Division, American Express Company, 65 Broadway, New York City, and include your full name and address, and the number of coins desired. Our Foreign Remittance Dept. will handle the matter directly with you as soon as the coins are available.

Very truly yours,


E. H. Dunki
District Travel Manager

ERD/vb

September 27, 1965

Dear Lou:

Thank you for your letter of the 22nd. My first letter to you was necessarily brief as I was not sure you were still interested. Now I will give you more details and answer your questions.

First: I was born March 11, 1895. On my seventh birthday in 1902 I was given a handful of foreign coins which got me started. About 1907 Maran Zerbe came to Pittsburgh with his travelling display of monies at one of our banks. There for the first time I saw money other than round coins and immediately became interested in odd and curious money. For some sub-conscious reason almost from the beginning I was greatly interested in siege, necessity, revolutionary and counterstamped coins.

As I got older, read all the books in the local library and obtained some of my own I realized that such coins all had stories back of them and represented periods of history.

From about 1914 on I joined the local coin clubs, got on the mailing lists of dealers here and abroad. Few dealers lists or auctions containing necessity or counterstamped coins missed my attention and while my funds were limited I did obtain some specimens from most of the sales. I became acquainted with such fine numismatists as Howland Wood, Lyman Low, Dave Prosky, Maurice Wormser, Henry Chapman, Max Schulman (Amsterdam) and many many others.

As I grew older my income increased, foster parents died and I inherited some money and my collection grew. At an early age I determined that I was going to retire while young enough to enjoy life and travel to all possible parts of the world. I was successful in the retail coal business and held many responsible positions in coal and trucking. After the war strict local smoke abatement laws were passed and enforced and I recognized the handwriting on the wall and that the days of the sale of local high volatile coal (soft coal) was numbered and the future of the retail coal business was becoming more and more precarious. At that time 1951 I was Executive Director of the Retail Coal Merchants Assoc. of Western Penna. and had been President of the state Penna Motor Truck Association and Director of the national American Trucking Assoc. Therefore effective May 1, 1951 I ~~was~~ notified my employers that I was resigning.

I had never been able to make a catalogue of my coin collection because by the time I had listed a hundred items at least ten new specimens had been acquired and it was not practical. Immediately upon retiring I dropped everything and started to make a complete catalogue. As I finished cataloguing a country I then offered it for sale or placed it for auction. By this I mean that, for instance, England included all coins of British Isles, Canada, India, all colonies etc and this was my method. See first sale by Hans Schulman in 1951. BUT I removed all siege, necessity, revolutionary, and counterstamped coins and these were later sold

separately. Hans Schulman sold all the English, Bank Leu in Switzerland all the German crowns in 1956-1957, Jacques Schulman all the Netherlands, Gerhardt Hirsch in Munich the German. The Americana (Mexico, Central and South American, The West Indies) are now ready.

In the meantime from 1952 to date I have visited most of the free countries of the World seeing the countries, attending important coins auctions and adding immensely to my coin collection and to my collection of odd and curious monies which is now the largest in the world.

Second: From the very beginning I had definite ideas which I have never failed to follow. They were (a) I made an envelope for every specimen. In the old days there were no square "coin envelopes" so all my coins were housed in #1 White Drug Envelopes (sample enclosed). All my trays were made to fit such envelopes and I still use this type. (b) On this envelope was all information. The country, the ruler, his period of reign, the description of the obverse and reverse, the denomination, the condition of the coin, in most cases the name of the dealer or auction, the date purchased and what I paid. Except in some cases where I bought entire collections the individual price was shown in my personal code. And last, but not least...I made a careful clear rubbing of every coin I ever owned. This was done on high grade white thin paper and the rubbings were (and are) filed in loose leaf binders 8 1/2 x 11". There are now twenty such volumes picturing some 150 to 200,000 coins. You can see these in Pittsburgh.

Third: You will see from this that I have very careful records of all the coins I ever owned. With few exceptions the prices on the catalogue of the Americanas are, as near as I can determine the actual cost price. The exceptions are where I bought a coin of considerable value at a very low price. For example last year in Manila I bought 87 Philippine counterstamp coins of Ferdinand VII and Isabella II at a flat price per coin. Among the coins was a Mexico 8 Real of BoMo mint, and extremely rare coin of which only two or three were known with the counterstamp. Bear in mind also that many of my coins were bought ten, twenty, thirty, forty and even fifty years ago.

Fourth: I am enclosing the carbon copy of the entire collection with the absolute understanding that if you or your client do not buy the entire collection this list MUST BE RETURNED INTACT.

Fifth: My price is as stated in my letter of Sept 18. Terms can be arranged subject to the approval of my attorney. Naturally it is essential that the collection must be inspected in Pittsburgh and arrangements should be made promptly. I ask only that there be as little delay as possible as I intend to have the collection sold at auction if a buyer is not found promptly. As I told you in my letter this offer has not been made to anyone else.

Please advise me promptly so that arrangements can be made for your visit. As to commission I am sure that can be worked out. 2 1/2% from me and 2 1/2% from the buyer seems fair to me. If you wonder why my price is less than cost remember that if the collection is placed for auction I would have to pay 20% to the dealer handling the sale.

Regards
Howard D. Gibbs

1. Brief Talk-High spots -Numismatic Life

2. Story of Howard adds more testimony Pgh area dedicated devoted and intelligent collectors accumulating some of the finest collections in their resp. fields.

3. No question but what H.G. was recognized throughout the world as top authority

took 7 auctions

4a- He was born in 1895 - so far as I know lived most of his life in Pgh, and died on his 75th Birthday in 1970

5. Man without fear - Married three times, his last wife is still living - Helen Unidas. Never seemed to consider the risks of having a native paddle him along the rivers of the upper Amazon or the Congo, and traveled off the beaten paths in China, and I guess most everywhere. Had a number of close calls

6. Lived in Brookline; in his wife's home. Never spent much on life-style, as there were always coins to be purchased and trips to be taken. WAS A LABOR NEGOTIATOR FOR PGH . COAL.

retired about 50

7. One of his earlier adventure began when he learned that the natives of the upper Amazon river and its tributaries made fish hook out of river gold. Howard decided he should go to the Upper Amazon with a lot of good steel fishhooks, and other things the far-back natives might need, and working through MISSIONARIES, he did just that. Somehow Gibbs came back with a lot of Native gold fishhooks, many of them broken, but he told me there were very large fish in much of the Amazon river, and that some of the fishhooks were 4 to 7 ounces of Pure gold, he didn't seem to care much about their condition.

CAME BACK, INSTEAD OF SELLING FOR GOLD VALUE wrote a number of articles FISH HOOK GOLD MONEY

8 - Was a good public speaker - Had a photographic memory of everything he learned about the Odd and Curious field, and was invited in a number of foreign countries to tell them of their early numismatic history. TALK ABOUT ALASKA

- 9 - For some time - he was one of the purchasing Commissioner\$for King Farouk of Egypt. Thru Farouk he became a member of INTERPOL, which he claimed gave him the right to carry a revolver at all times. He ran into many problems trying to Board an Airplane with a gun.
10. The Quetzal Bird story - Howard regarded this as one of the high spots for human interest.
- 11 - Abrasive at times. Considered himself the Ultimate authority on all things Odd and Curious.
12. My first experience inAuctioning a large collection of coins was in handling the Charles A. Kays Estate. Kays had been a customer of Gibbs for Odd and Curious coins, bot had bought a lot of scarce U. S. coins from other dealers. We auctioned off the Kays collection through the Schulman Galleries in New ork City, with Howard doing the Catalog. We sold the U. S. to Charley Green of Chicago, after getting almost 20 bids, and Gibbs was quite impreddsed with our marketing program, and its security. However on handling the Kays estate, I ran into a problem with Gibbs which almost cost ~~me~~ our Friendship.

In the Kays Estate there was a very rare Decadrahm of Athens. Gibbs said the coin was not authentic, and that even though it ~~x~~ was supposed to have come from the Henry Chapman, Gibbs said he had sold the coin to Charles Kays as a repro for 300.00 Schulman believed the coin might be genuine and said it would make the sale. At the sale it was announced that the coin's authenticity was not guaranteed. We then withdrew the coin, but had a purchase agreement reached with a buyer if the coin proved AUTHENTIC. Gibbs was so positive about his position.

- 14 - When he came into ~~sell~~ sign his will, he was wearing at least three Jade Amulets which were supposed to ~~help~~ secure the help of the gods in such a transaction. Said

Elysiumeld.